In its power of acting on the alimentary canal, it resembles many other plants, which are related to it in botanical habit. The Squill, Colchicum, and Aloe are examples of this class, and even the common Daffodil and Tulip are found to be emetic. I have known a family of children to be taken with violent vomiting from having, by mistake, dug up, roasted and eaten some Tulip roots, supposing them to be Artichokes.

It is probable that the medicinal activity of the Erythronium is of a volatile nature, capable of being dissipated by heat. Its farinaceous portion, when duly separated, is no doubt innoxious. Gmelin, in his Flora Sibirica, states, that the Tartars collect and dry the roots of Erythronium *dens canis*, and boil them either with milk or broth, and consider them as very nutritious food. They are said nearly to resemble salep. It is remarkable that farinaceous roots, which possess active and even virulent qualities, do not impart them to the fæcula, which constitutes so large a portion of their bulk. The different species of Arum, Calla, and the Jatropha Manihot are examples of this fact, affording nutritious bread, although their crude juices are more or less poisonous.

The leaves of the American Erythronium are said to be more active than the root, but on this subject I am not fully informed. It is probable that the recent leaves have more activity than the dry.

BOTANICAL REFERENCES.

Erythronium Americanum, Ker, *Bot. Mag. t.* 1113.—Nuttall, *Genera*, i. 223.—E. lanceolatum, Pursh, i. 230.—E. longifolium, Poiret, *Encycl. Methodique.*—E. flavum, Smith, *Rees' Cycl.*—E. dens canis, Michaux, *Flora*, i. 198.

PLATE LVIII.

Fig. 1. *Erythronium Americanum, the flower rather more drooping than common.*
Fig. 2. *One of the inner petals.*
Fig. 3. *Stamen.*
Fig. 4. *Pistil.*
Fig. 5. *Stigma magnified.*
Fig. 6. *Root.*